Appl. No. 10/828,287
Amendment dated December 13, 2005
Reply to Office Action of September 12, 2005

501.43790X00

REMARKS / ARGUMENTS

Claims 1-15 and 8 remain pending in this application. Claims 16-17 have been canceled without prejudice or disclaimer. No new claims have been added.

Priority

Applicants request acknowledgment of the claim for priority and acknowledgment of receipt of the priority document. The priority document was filed on August 27, 2004.

Specification

The specification has been amended as requested by the Examiner.

35 U.S.C. §112 and Claim Objections

The claims have been amended to overcome the Examiner's objections.

Interview

Applicants wish to thank the Examiner for conducting an interview with the undersigned on December 12, 2005. Agreement was reached in the interview in that the arguments presented along with proposed amendments overcame the art of record.

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35 U.S.C. § 103

Claims 1-18 stand rejected under 35 U.S.C. §103(a) as being unpatentable over Luke et al (U.S. Pub. No. 2004/0133634) in view of Dobberpuhl et al (U.S. Patent No. 6,754,718). These rejections are traversed as follows.

As explained to the Examiner during the interview, the currently pending claims patentably define the present invention over the cited art. The claims have been amended for purposes of clarity only and have not been amended to overcome any prior art.

The art of record does not disclose a management computer that receives a request from a computer, which uses a storage system, and instructs the storage system to create a logical volume that satisfies that request in the manner recited. Some of the claims specifically refer to ciphered communication using an IPSec process. As stated in the Interview Summary, the present claims overcome the art of record.

Conclusion

In view of the foregoing, Applicant respectfully requests that a timely Notice of Allowance be issued in this case.

Respectfully submitted,

MATTINGLY, STANGER, MALUR & BRUNDIDGE, P.C.

By_____

Shrinath Malur
Reg. No. 34,663
(703) 684-1120

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